

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE,
AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER IDENTIFIERS**

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously presented) The direct electrical drive according to claim 4, wherein stator and the rotor are part of an electric machine, wherein the wheel set has two wheels mounted to the wheel set shaft, said wheel set shaft being completely enveloped in an area between the wheels by the electric machine.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Currently amended) A direct electrical drive for a wheel set of a vehicle, comprising:
 - a stator;
 - a rotor interacting with the stator and coupled mechanically with a wheel set shaft of the wheel set;
 - a cooling device constructed to cool the rotor and including a fan for drawing in air through an air inlet and conducting the air through a cooling channel inside the rotor; and
 - a barrier ~~provided in~~ located in an area within the rotor in close proximity adjacent to the wheel set shaft ~~for protection to protect the wheel set shaft~~ against ingress of foreign matter via the air inlet ~~into the wheel set shaft~~ when the fan draws in air.
5. (Previously presented) The direct electrical drive according to claim 4, wherein the rotor has at least one rotor hub which is coupled mechanically to the wheel set shaft, with the rotor hub being connected via at least one rotor web with a support for a rotor reaction part.

6. (Previously presented) The direct electrical drive according to claim 4, wherein the barrier includes a catch device to prevent foreign matter from impacting the wheel set shaft, said catch device having a first section forming part of the fan and disposed in close proximity of an air outlet of the cooling channel.
7. (Previously presented) The direct electrical drive according to claim 4, wherein the barrier is a dirt guide device.
8. (Previously presented) The direct electrical drive according to claim 4, wherein the barrier includes a baffle wall disposed in the air inlet for deflecting foreign matter.
9. (Previously presented) The direct electrical drive according to claim 2, wherein the wheel set shaft has a continuous jacket between the wheels of the wheel set.
10. (Previously presented) The direct electrical drive according to claim 4, wherein the rotor has a dirt-binding surface.
11. (Currently amended) The direct electrical drive according to claim 6, wherein the catch device has a second section in ~~closed~~ close proximity of the air inlet.
12. (Previously presented) The direct electrical drive according to claim 4, wherein the cooling channel has an inside wall formed with a dirt-binding surface.
13. (Previously presented) The direct electrical drive according to claim 10, wherein the surface is sticky.
14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) The direct electrical drive according to claim 8, wherein the baffle wall has a slanted configuration.
16. (Previously presented) The direct electrical drive according to claim 11, wherein the first and second sections of the catch device have an inwardly turned nose.